Attorney Docket # 4100 981

Patent

IN THE UNITED AND TES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Alfons SCHUSTER et al.

Serial No.:

09/041,416

Filed: March 12, 1998

For:

Method of Imaging an Erasable Printing Form

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Box: AF Issue Fee

Examiner: S. Funk Group Art: 2854

> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

April 17, 2000 (Date of Deposit)

Klaus P. Stoffel

April 17, 2000 Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH CERTIFICATION AND PETITION FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.97

SIR:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

This information is being submitted subsequent to the earlier of the mailing of a final action or the notice of allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(d), the undersigned submits the following certification and petition requesting consideration of this statement:

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Certification under 37 CFR §1.97(d) and (e)

The undersigned hereby certifies:

that each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Petition under 37 CFR §1.97(d)

The undersigned hereby petitions that the Examiner consider the information cited in this Statement. A check in the amount of \$130 is enclosed to cover the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i). Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

The enclosed references were cited in a Japanese application corresponding to the present application.

Japanese reference 7-76063 discloses a printing machine with an exchangeable cylinder. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Japanese reference 4-247472 discloses an electrophotographic printing machine in which the print does not need to be monitored and the density of the pattern is stable. Applicants do not have a complete English language translation of this reference, however, an English language summary is provided.

Japanese reference 4-42264 discloses a method for electrophographic wet developing. Applicants also do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Japanese reference 4-134457 discloses an electrophotographic plate making machine. Although applicants do not have a complete English language translation of this reference an English language abstract is provided.

Japanese reference 4-097848 discloses an offset printing method and a printing press. Once again applicants do not have a complete English language translation of this reference, but instead only an English language abstract which is also enclosed.

Japanese reference 3-13392 discloses a form cylinder arranged in an offset printing machine for direct imaging. Applicants once again do not have an English language translation of this reference.

Japanese reference 5-229090 discloses a printing machine with an electrochemically alterable printing form. Once again applicants do not have readily available an English language translation of this reference.

The present invention defines a specific method of imaging an erasable printing form which is not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed references.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the

item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted, COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By:

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Dated: April 17, 2000